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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. P04337US1

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: MELICK, et al.
SERIAL NO: 09/753,863
FILED: January 3, 2001
TITLE: METHOD AND

Group Art Unit: 2876 JUN 07 2002
Examiner: TBA
Confirmation No: 177-12500
AR CODE DATA INTERCHANGE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
FILED WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR
BEFORE MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION (37 C.F.R. § 1.9)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Attached are Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) listing the relevant art known to the applicant herein. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing dates of the following prior provisional applications: Serial No. 60/143,220, filed on January 3, 2000; Serial No. 60/213,843 filed June 23, 2000; and Serial No. 60/232,825, filed on September 15, 2000. Copies of the listed references are enclosed. The Examiner is requested to consider the references and make them of record.

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the above correspondence was mailed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, as First Class mail, postage prepaid, this 14th day of March, 2002.

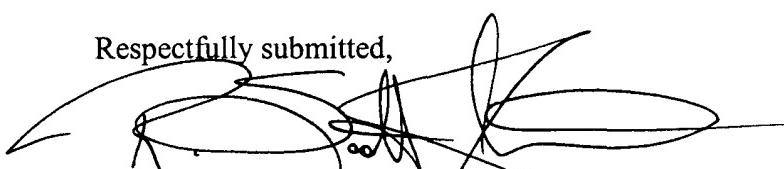
R. Scott Johnson

which, there may be a duty to disclose. Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner.

Respectfully submitted,



R. Scott Johnson, Reg. No. 45,792
McKEE, VOORHEES & SEASE, P.L.C.
801 Grand Avenue, Suite 3200
Des Moines, Iowa 50309-2721
Phone No. (515) 288-3667
Fax No. (515) 288-1338
CUSTOMER NO: 22885

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Attorneys of Record



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Form PTO/SA08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			
Application Number	09/753,863		
Filing Date	January 3, 2001		
First Named Inventor	MELICK, et al.		
Art Unit	2876		
Examiner Name	TBA		
Sheet	1	of	1
		Attorney Docket Number	
		P05220US0	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

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